

**TABLE F.** This CHILD ABUSE mnemonic is a resource that promotes thorough interviewing and documentation.

<b>CHILD ABUSE MNEMONIC</b>	
<b>C</b> ONSISTENCY OF INJURY WITH DEVELOPMENTAL STAGE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is the incident as described plausible for age and development of the child?</li> <li>Refer to normal developmental milestones.</li> <li>“Non-cruisers are non-bruisers!”</li> </ul>
<b>H</b> ISTORY INCONSISTENT WITH IN JURY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Does the medical history of the child, or the incident history change from person to person?</li> <li>Is there a previous history of fractures, ingestions or injuries?</li> <li>Is the injury consistent with the presenting history?</li> </ul>
<b>I</b> NAPPROPRIATE PARENTAL CONCERNS	<p>Do parents/caregivers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ask pertinent questions?</li> <li>Seem concerned about outcomes?</li> <li>Offer comfort measures to the child?</li> </ul>
<b>L</b> ACK OF SUPERVISION	<p>Question family member/caregiver as to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Who was present?</li> <li>What happened?</li> <li>When did it happen?</li> <li>Where did it happen?</li> <li>Why did it happen?</li> </ul>
<b>D</b> ELAY IN SEEKING CARE	Is the time frame between when the injury occurred and when medical care was sought reasonable? Note unusual delays.
<b>A</b> FFECT/ATTRIBUTIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Document negative attributions.</li> <li>Document reaction of child to all family members/caregivers present.</li> <li>Document response and behavior of family members/caregivers present.</li> </ul>
<b>B</b> RUISES	<p>Document findings/absence of findings of head to toe exam with patient unclothed. In documenting bruises note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Location</li> <li>Size</li> <li>Number</li> <li>Pattern</li> <li>Color</li> <li>Non-cruising or non-ambulatory</li> <li>Presence over bony or non-bony prominence(s)</li> </ul>
<b>U</b> NUSUAL INJURY PATTERNS	Describe injury characteristics and diagnostic testing performed. Differentiate between non-intentional versus inflicted patterns, e.g., belt loops, bites, iron burns, hand imprints.
<b>S</b> USPICIONS	Remember that a report to Montana CFSD Centralized Intake Hotline is for “suspicion” of abuse or neglect. YOU do NOT have to prove it. You are a mandated reporter for reasonable suspicion of abuse and neglect. Complete physical exam including body chart and/or photo documentation. Document location, size, color and shape of abnormalities.
<b>E</b> NVIRONMENTAL CUES	If a run report from EMS is present, does it contain any contributing information about the environment in which the injury occurred? Gather information from EMS prior to their departure from the ED.